[Shri P. Chidambaram]

member from among the members of the House to be a member of the Coffee Board in the vacancy caused by the election of Shrimati D. K. Tharadevi to the Lok Sabha."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

STATEMENT RE. CONSUMER PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1991

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) epxlaining the circumstances which had necessitated immediate legislation by the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-126/91)

THE CONSUMER PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1991

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Conusmer Protection Act 1986.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we take up the Railway Budget...

REFERENCE TO DELAY IN THE RELEASE OF MR. K. DORAISWAMY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INDIAN OIL CORPORATION

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): Madam, I have been raising consistently the question of the release of Mr. Doraiswamy at this time and everytime the Home Minister is assuring us that he is about to be released, but I think the negotiations have gone *phut*. These militants were released, but the militants have not kept up their part of the agreement and they have not released Mr. Doraiswamy. Now the militants are asking for release of seven more terrorists. I think it is a very bad handling by the Government of this entire episode. The Minister of State for Home Affairs, Mr. Jacob, is here. I would like to know from him what the actual position at the moment is. I think the Government has bungled on this issue. You have left the militants without ensuring that Mr. Doraiswamy is released and now you are faced with a position where they are wanting seven more terrorists to be released. We would like to know what the position is and what action Government is going to take...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA (Rajasthan): The matter should be handed over to the Defence...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Bihar): Madam, it is a very serious matter. It has not only been bungled, but the report also says that they have released, by mistake, the wrong person, that one of the three person released is not the person who was to be released...(*Interruptions*)... If this is the way in which the Government is handling this whole matter, it is very surprising. I am grateful to my friend, Mr. Suresh Kalmadi, who is raising it consistently every day. We have not been making a big noise in this House because of the delicate nature of his whole matter, but the manner in which the whole thing is being handled, the way the whole thing is being handled is disgusting in the extreme and, therefore, we must have a statement. We are not even sure today whether Mr. Doraiswamy is alive or not. There are doubts being expressed about that. The Minister of State for Home Affairs, Mr. Jacob, is here. Will he like to make a statement and respond to this?

DR. ABRAR AHMED (Rajasthan): Madam, it is a very sensitive matter. दुरैस्वामी की रिहाई के संबंध में सरकार द्वारा यहां एक स्टेटमेंट दिया जाना चाहिए । यह मामला यहां बराबर उठ रहा है । उनके परिवार वाले और सारा देश उनके बारे में चितित है । उनके परिवार वाले राष्ट्रपति जी से भी मिले हैं । दुरैस्वामी जिदा भी है या नहीं उस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा वक्तव्य दिया जाना चाहिए ।

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA (Punjab): Madam, this shows the Government in a very poor light. It is disgraceful that they could not handle the matter properly.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): The other day, the Government has said: "The discussion are in a very delicate stage."...*(Interruptions)*... The Home Minister has said the other day: "The discussions are in a very delicate stage and within three or four days the whole matter will be settled." But now it is alrealy nearly one week. I would like the hon. Home Minister to make a statement on this and tell us what the state of affairs is...

(Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister of State for Home Affairs is here. He has heard all this.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Madam I would like to know whether the Minister is alert or not. He must do something for getting Mr. Doraiswamy immediately released.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Jacob is alert.

(Interruptions)

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: Madam, the Government is bungling on this whole issue. It is playing into the hands of the militants. It is most disgraceful for the Government.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: The whole personnel in the oil sector are in a state of fear. Let there be a statement from the Home Minister.

डा० अबरार अहमद : उनके परिवार वाले राष्ट्रपति जी से भी मिले हैं और उन्होंने उनके परिवार वालों को आश्वस्त किया है । तो क्या सरकार उस आश्वासन को भी पूरा कर रही है या नही ? उनकी रिहाई के संबंध में सरकार क्या प्रयास कर रही है । सरकार यह भी बताये कि क्या दुरैस्वानी जिदा भी हैं या नहीं ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you want to know about Mr. Jacob or Mr. Doraiswamy? Mr. Jacob is alive and he is listening and I am sure he is going to make a statement...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Madam, I would like to say something...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please allow the Minister. He s saying something. After the Minister reacts, then you get up.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, I would like to say something before the Minister reacts...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will move on the another subject. If everybody speaks I cannot allow.. *(Interruptions)*... It is all right. It doesn't matter. *(Interruptions)*...

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: He is making his maiden intervention.

(Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order. I will allow his maiden performance. This is the maiden performance of the leader.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Madam, when the matter was raised by many Members of this House in the last few days, the Home Minister was urging caution on the part of the Members on the ground that the negotiations were at a

[Shri Jaipal Reddy]

delicate stage. It is very clear now the negotiations were rather indelicately handled, as a consequence of which militants have been released including the wrong one and yet the person held to ransom is not being released. This is an extraordinary example of muddled functioning of the Government. The Government should give a reply not only to the House but to the country. (*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us study Doraiswamy's letter. (*Interruptions*)... Let Doraiswamy's letter be over. (*Interruptions*)... *Order please.* (*Interruptions*)... Let him finish. (*Interruptions*)...

आप बोलिए । मंत्री जी कुछ बोल रहे हैं । ... (व्यवधान)

You want to say something. (*Interruptions*)... You are not responding. (*Interruptions*)...

कुमारी आलिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): आनरेबल डिप्टी चेयरमैन ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति: आप दुरैस्वामी के लिए बोल रही हैं ?

कुमारी आलिया : नहीं ।

उपसभापति : तो यह हो जाने दीजिए ।

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: It is a very important matter. (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Let the Minister react. (*Interruptions*)

कुमारी आलिया : मैडम यह बहुत ही इंपार्टेंट विषय है । मैं आपके माध्यम से आपका ध्यान 24 तारीख के "नवभारत टाइम्स' की तरफ दिलाना चाहती हूं जिसमें बाबरी मस्जिद, राम जन्म भूमि के बारे में बहुत ही बात थी । ... (व्यवधान) ...

उपसभापति : पहले उनको जवाब देने दीजिए । ... (व्यवधान)

कुमारी आलिया : जो खबर छपी है अशोक सिंघल ने जो बयान दिया है, क्योंकि मेरा ताल्लुक फैजाबाद डिस्ट्रिक्ट से है तो मैं आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहती हूं ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : वह दूसरे पर बोल रहे है उनको जवाब दे देने दीजिए । आप अभी जरा बैठिए वहीं बैठ जाइये ... (व्यवधान)

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति महोदया ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : पहले एक चीज हो जाने दीजिए, अब आप बीच में खड़े हो गए ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : मैं इसी में कह रहा हूं । आपको समाचार मिला होगा इंडियन आयल की रिफाइनरी जो मथुरा में है उनके जो अधिकारी है ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : हो गया ।

Okay. Let us be brief Do not repeat anything. (*Interruptions*)

माथुर साहब, वह बात हो गई ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : इसी से संबंधित है ।

उपसभापति: आप बोल तो लेने दीजिए । आप इतना डिस्टर्ब करते हैं कि मंत्री जी बैठ जाते हैं । उनको बुलवाने के लिए फिर मुश्किल होती है । बोलिए ... (व्यवधान) उनको बोल लेने दीजिए ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : इंडियन आयल के अधिकारियों के ऊपर टार्गेट किया जा रहा है ऐसा लगता है, मैं यह कह रहा हूं दुरैस्वामी का सवाल ... (व्यवधान) ... में भी इंडियन आयल के अधिकारियों का किया गया, मथुरा में भी किया गया । मंत्री महोदया कहें कि क्या पाकिस्तानी एजेंट का कोई इंडियन आयल के ऊपर हमला करने की योजना हो रहा है ? किस प्रकार से इंडियन आयल के इन अधिकारियों को चुना जा रहा है ।

उपसभापति : बोलिए... (व्यवधान)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Madam, I am reacting on the first issue in which you said about Mr. Doraiswamy. The hon'ble Home Minister last week mentioned in this House that the negotiations are continuing and it is in a delicate stage and that we do not want to divulge the proceedings and the modalities and all that before the House. So far the negotiations have not broken down. Negotiations are being continued. Even yesterday there was exchange of view and negotiations are in progress even now. According to our information Mr. Doraiswamy is still alive though there are some apprehensions that he is not. But the information is that he is alive. That is our knowledge. There is nothing to show that he is dead. I cannot say very clearly at this stage because the negotiations are continuing... *(Interruptions)* and if the House so desires, then perhaps we will have consultation. I do not know at this stage whether it is appropriate to come before the House with a statement because the negotiation is still being continued. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Whom did you release. You are making a wrong statement. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: You released a wrong man. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT (Madhya Pradesh): You did not take proper precaution in regard to the exchange.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: I cannot say anything here [illegible] the modalities of the [illegible].

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: There is a report that a [illegible] has been released. And the [illegible] detenu was most [illegible] release. According [illegible] reports he went home. He has not gone anywhere else. Would the Government admit that they have made a mistake? They have made a mistake in identifying the detenu to be released. Was it the right detenu that the terrorists wanted released? Will the Minister confirm?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now let us have the other issues.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY. The person who was negotiating is also missing.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Different kinds of press reports are being raised here. I cannot react to every press report that is raised here

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The House expresses its very grave doubts on the Government's capacity to handle this situation. We are most certainly saddened by the way the Government has handled it.

VISHWA HINDU PARISHAD LEADER'S STATEMENT ON DISPUTED LAND IN FAIZABAD DISTRICT

उपसभापति : आपको क्या कहना है, आप किस बारे में बोल रही है ?

कुमारी [illegible] (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैडम मेरा [illegible] फैजाबाद डिस्ट्रिक्ट से है और वहा के बारे में मैं एक महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दे की ओर [illegible] सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहती हूं। मैडम 24 तारीख के नवभारत टाइम्स में छपा है कि अशोक सिंघल, जो कि विश्व हिन्दू परिषद के नेता है, उन्होंने फैजाबाद [illegible] और [illegible] विश्व हिन्दू परिषद [illegible] [illegible] इसमें [illegible] सम्भावना [illegible] क्योंकि वहां पर तमाम रायट्स की प्लानिंग की जा रही है।